Educated Unemployed Youth in H.P.

1652. SHRI ANIL SHARMA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of unemployed educated, technically and otherwise, youth in Himachal Pradesh, district-wise;

(b) the annual growth rate of unemployment in the State for the last three years; and

(c) Government's policy to tide over the problem of unemployment in the state?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI VIJAY GOEL): (a) Number of educated (10th standard and above) job seekers, all of whom are not necessarily unemployed, on the live register of employment exchanges in Himachal Pradesh as on 31st December, 2001 (latest available) was of the order of 6.97 lakh. District wise information is not maintained.

(b) Annual growth rate of job seekers on the live register of employment exchanges in Himachal Pradesh during 2000, 2001 and 2002 were of the order of 2.89%, 1.24% and 1.52% respectively.

(c) The approach to Tenth Plan focusses on providing gainful high quality employment to the additions to the labour force and it is listed as one of the monitorable objectives for the 10th Plan and beyond. The growth strategy of 10th Plan would lay emphasis on rapid growth of those sectors which are likely to create high quality employment opportunities and deal with the policy constraints which discourage growth of employment. Particular attention would be paid to the policy environment influencing a wide range of economic activities which have a large employment potential. Besides this, the Government is implementing special programmes for eradication of poverty and generation of employment. These include Swarna Jayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY), Jawahar Gram Smriddhi Yojana (JGSY), Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS). Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY), Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY) and Food for work programme. Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana (PMRY) is also being implemented to provide employment opportunities to educated unemployed youth. This will help tide over the problem of unemployment in Himachal Pradesh also.